

Posted on official
bulletin board on
Friday, April 07, 2017
at 3:00 p.m.

4/7/2017 CSO
1:36 PM



The Transportation Policy Body for the North Central Texas Council of Governments
(Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Dallas-Fort Worth Region)

NOTICE OF MEETING

THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

WILL MEET

Thursday, April 13, 2017, 1 pm

IN THE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL ROOM (1ST FLOOR)

NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

616 Six Flags Dr, Arlington, TX 76011

If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements at the meeting, please contact Carli Baylor of NCTCOG 72 hours in advance of the meeting at 817/695-9240. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.

AGENDA

**Regional Transportation Council
Thursday, April 13, 2017
North Central Texas Council of Governments**

**1:00 pm Full RTC Business Agenda
(NCTCOG Guest Secured Wireless Connection Password: rangers!)**

1:00 – 1:05 1. Approval of March 9, 2017, Minutes

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Ron Jensen, RTC Chair

Item Summary: Approval of the March 9, 2017, minutes contained in Reference Item 1 will be requested.

Background: N/A

1:05 – 1:05 2. Consent Agenda

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 0

2.1. Transportation Improvement Program Modifications

Presenter: Ken Bunkley, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of revisions to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) will be requested.

Background: May 2017 revisions to the 2017-2020 TIP are provided as Reference Item 2.1.1 for the Council's consideration. Administrative amendments from the February 2017 cycle are provided for information in Electronic Item 2.1.2. These modifications have been reviewed for consistency with the Mobility Plan, the air quality conformity determination, and financial constraint of the TIP.

2.2. Unified Planning Work Program Modifications

Presenter: Dan Kessler, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of modifications to the FY2016 and FY2017 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) will be requested.

Background: The Unified Planning Work Program is required by federal and State transportation planning regulations and provides a summary of the transportation and transportation-related air quality planning tasks to be conducted by Metropolitan Planning Organization staff. The FY2016 and FY2017 UPWP identifies the activities to be carried out between October 1, 2015, and September 30, 2017. Included in these proposed amendments are new initiatives, updates to existing projects, and funding adjustments. The proposed modifications were presented at the March 13, 15, and 20, 2017, public meetings and are also included as Reference Item 2.2.1. Additional information is provided in Electronic Item 2.2.2. Comments received as a result of

the public outreach process, if any, will be provided as a handout at the meeting. The Surface Transportation Technical Committee has recommended Regional Transportation Council approval of the proposed modifications.

2.3. Approval of Contingent Local Funds for Electric Vehicle Carsharing Project

Presenter: Chris Klaus, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of the contingency for local match will be requested.

Background: Staff submitted a grant proposal to the Department of Energy (DOE) for an electric vehicle carsharing project at college and university campuses throughout the region. The proposed project also includes participation from Clean Cities Coalitions in Austin, Louisiana, and Oklahoma, working with colleges and universities in their respective areas. The DOE encouraged submittal of a full grant proposal which was due on March 24, 2017.

The grant requires a minimum of a dollar-for-dollar match throughout the project. Matching funds will be sourced from project partners, including participating universities. As part of the project proposal, staff requested DOE funds to cover all administrative expenses related to project implementation. However, expenses associated with staff time needed to initiate the project may occur prior to any match funds being received. Therefore, staff is seeking approval to utilize up to \$50,000 in RTC local funds, if needed, to support these initial staff expenses.

1:05 – 1:20

3. Orientation to Agenda/Director of Transportation Report

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 15
Presenter: Michael Morris, NCTCOG

1. Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Member Representation at Events
 - Dallas County Judge Clay Lewis Jenkins-Texas Freight Advisory Committee
2. Funding Allocations and Projects Approved in the 2017 Unified Transportation Program
3. High-Occupancy Vehicle Subsidy Report (Electronic Item 3.1)
4. Traffic Incident Management Executive Level Course, May 4, 2017 (Electronic Item 3.2)
5. North Texas Smart Cities Summit, May 16, 2017 (Electronic Item 3.3)
6. Southern Transportation and Air Quality Summit, August 29-30, 2017 (Electronic Item 3.4)
7. Air Quality Funding Opportunities for Vehicles (Electronic Item 3.5)
8. March Public Meeting Minutes (Handout)
9. April Public Meeting Notice (Electronic Item 3.6)
10. 2017 Spring Outreach Season (Electronic Item 3.7)
11. High-Speed Rail Correspondence (Electronic Item 3.8)

- 12. Recent Correspondence (Electronic Item 3.9)
- 13. Recent News Articles (Electronic Item 3.10)
- 14. Recent Press Releases (Electronic Item 3.11)
- 15. Transportation Partners Progress Reports

1:20 – 1:30 4. Overview from Commissioner Laura Ryan, Texas Transportation Commission

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Victor Vandergriff and Laura Ryan, Texas Transportation Commission

Item Summary: Commissioner Victor Vandergriff will introduce his colleague, Laura Ryan, from the Texas Transportation Commission.

Background: The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) has a rich history of supporting the Texas Department of Transportation Texas commissioners from across the state. From time to time, one of the five commissioners is available to meet with the RTC.

1:30 – 1:40 5. Hemphill/Lamar Connector Project and Partnership with Tarrant County and Other Agencies

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Christie Gotti, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request action on a partnership with the City of Fort Worth, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Tarrant County, and the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) regarding the Hemphill/Lamar Connector project in Downtown Fort Worth.

Background: After being defederalized by the RTC at the request of the City of Fort Worth in 2009, the Hemphill/Lamar Connector project has experienced rising costs over the years. The total cost is now \$53 million and the City has \$26.69 million available. In September 2016, the RTC approved part of a Hemphill/Lamar Connector partnership, with staff committing to bring back the final partnership for approval. Staff has since worked with the City and Tarrant County, among others, to identify the remaining funds and complete the partnership. It is critical that this project does not switch back to a federal design standard.

In order to construct this project using only local funds, staff proposes a partnership in which the City uses its remaining funds, along with an additional \$23 million from Tarrant County, a contribution of \$3.45 million in Regional Toll Revenue (RTR) funds from the RTC, and TxDOT payment of direct State costs for on-system portions of the project. As part of this effort, staff is proposing to swap RTR funds from the Kaufman County account to the Tarrant County and Regional Accounts. Further details on the partnership can be found in Reference Item 5.

1:40 – 1:45

6. **Critical Freight Corridors: Regional Connections**

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Dan Lamers, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will brief the Council and seek action on the proposed 2017 Critical Urban Freight Corridor designations that will provide enhanced connectivity to the State Freight Network and National Highway Freight Network.

Background: In March, staff briefed the Council on the Texas Department of Transportation's request for the Metropolitan Planning Organization to propose approximately 100 miles of roadway corridors to be designated as Critical Urban Freight Corridors. Critical Urban Freight Corridors are vital freight corridors that provide critical connectivity to the federal system. By designating these important corridors, states can strategically direct resources toward improved system performance and efficient movement of freight. The designation of these corridors will increase opportunities for National Highway Freight Program formula funds and Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-term Achievement of National Efficiencies Grant Program funds. Reference Item 6 illustrates the proposed facilities for designation as Critical Urban Freight Corridors.

1:45 – 1:50

7. **Transportation Development Credits: Category Renewals and Additions**

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 5

Presenter: Adam Beckom, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will request Regional Transportation Council (RTC) approval of proposed changes to the Regional Transportation Development Credit (TDC) program. In March, staff briefed the Council on this item.

Background: In 2012, the RTC received an allocation of 465,486,222 TDCs from the Texas Department of Transportation. In the years since, 145,548,640 credits have been awarded to local agencies to be utilized in lieu of the local match on projects and programs with federal funding. North Central Texas Council of Governments staff has been exploring new ways to utilize TDCs and proposes to make changes and allocation adjustments to the program. Details on the proposed changes can be found in Reference Item 7.

1:50 – 2:00

8. **Approval of Automated Vehicle Program Funding**

☒ Action ☐ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Tom Bamonte, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an overview and request approval of Automated Vehicle Program funding.

Background: The North Central Texas Council of Governments established its Automated Vehicle Program in mid-2016. Staff seeks approval of a plan to fund a variety of automated vehicle initiatives in coming months. The Surface Transportation Technical Committee approved the program at its March 24, 2017, meeting. Details are provided in Reference Item 8.

2:00 – 2:10

9. **Legislative Update**

☐ Action ☒ Possible Action ☐ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Amanda Wilson, NCTCOG

Item Summary: The Regional Transportation Council (RTC) will receive an update on federal and State legislative actions.

Background: The first session of the 115th United States (US) Congress convened on January 3, 2017, and the Texas Legislature convened on January 10, 2017. Transportation issues will be a focus for both the US Congress and Texas Legislature. This item will allow staff to provide updates on key positions of the RTC and allow any additional positions to be taken, if necessary. Rebekah Hernandez has been transmitting summaries to RTC members every week during the session.

2:10 – 2:20

10. **Start of Ozone Season and Other Air Quality Updates**

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Chris Klaus, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on a variety of air quality topics pertaining to North Central Texas as the 2017 ozone season begins.

Background: The 2017 ozone season began on March 1 for the North Central Texas ten-county nonattainment area. The region continues to monitor and work towards compliance for the 2008 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) at the same time the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) transitions to the more recent 2015 ozone NAAQS.

To aid in community outreach, North Central Texas Council of Governments staff recently updated the Air North Texas website. The revamped website offers a more user-friendly interface, helps raise awareness about air quality issues, includes information for becoming an Air North Texas partner, and lists upcoming outreach events. Further details can be found in Electronic Item 10.

2:20 – 2:30

11. **Texoma Area Paratransit System Wrap Up**

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Sarah Chadderdon, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide an update on efforts to close out funding agreements and manage assets that had been used to support transit service operated by Texoma Area Paratransit System (TAPS) in the south Collin County area between 2013 and 2015. Additional information is available in Electronic Item 11.

Background: In 2013, TAPS was selected to provide transit service in most of Collin County. Following several federal and state reviews with negative findings and growing financial problems, TAPS stopped providing service in Collin County at the end of 2015. Throughout 2016, staff worked to close out TAPS agreements and redistribute vehicles.

2:30 – 2:40 12.

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program/Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Funding

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information Minutes: 10

Presenter: Adam Beckom, NCTCOG

Item Summary: Staff will provide information and request feedback on the proposed project selection process for Fiscal Years (FY) 2017-2020 Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) funds scheduled to occur this year.

Background: During the 10-year planning effort, projects were programmed using Category 2 (Metropolitan Corridor), Category 4 (Statewide Connectivity Corridor), and Category 12 (Strategic Priority) funding. Category 5 (CMAQ) and Category 7 (STBG) funds were not programmed through this effort and instead were used as a potential backstop for the 10-year Plan. Now that approval of the 10-year planning effort is complete for the first year, it is time to program the CMAQ and STBG funds. The proposed process for awarding CMAQ and STBG funds will be presented at the meeting, and details of the proposed process are included in Electronic Item 12.

13. **Progress Reports**

☐ Action ☐ Possible Action ☒ Information

Item Summary: Progress Reports are provided in the items below.

- RTC Attendance (Reference Item 13.1)
- STTC Attendance and Minutes (Electronic Item 13.2)
- Local Motion (Electronic Item 13.3)

14. **Other Business (Old or New):** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of interest before the group.

15. **Future Agenda Items:** This item provides an opportunity for members to bring items of future interest before the Council.

16. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Regional Transportation Council is scheduled for **1:00 pm, Thursday, May 11, 2017, at the North Central Texas Council of Governments.**